

written a column in tribute to Marvin Hammond. I would like to have it reprinted in the RECORD and call it to the attention of my colleagues and others.

[From the Shopper-News, July 21, 2008]

#### MISSING MARVIN

If ever there was a man who opted to wear out rather than rust out, it is Marvin Hammond.

He's retired again, but don't count on it sticking with Marvin.

A crisis in Maynardville left folks without water over the Fourth of July holiday. City officials asked Hallsdale-Powell Utility District for help, and Hammond was quick to respond. "Hook them up," he said, "and we'll work out the paperwork later."

"One man told me he had a shower for the first time in 10 days," Hammond said last week.

Utility districts network in order to sell water across systems when necessary. Maynardville Utility District had not tapped into HPUD's new water plant on Norris Lake. There are issues with water pressure and leaks up there, but these are engineering concerns—fixable.

Hammond had the vision to build a new water plant on Norris Lake and to expand the one on Melton Hill Lake. Hallsdale-Powell customers won't be running out of water. And Hammond leaves the district in a position to sell water to our neighbors.

Hammond was named president of HPUD in 2000. He took the title president emeritus last week as Darren Cardwell was elevated to the top job. Cardwell is just the third leader of HPUD, the district built by general manager Allan Gill of Powell.

Hammond, who earlier had retired from KUB, found a district with money in the bank and low rates; he left a district in debt with substantially higher rates.

Construction foreman Greg McCloud said it best: "Hallsdale was getting bigger (more customers), but we were not getting better."

Hammond set out to improve customer relations and to build partnerships with regulatory bodies such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. He replaced much of the 150 miles of 2-inch galvanized water line and looked for leaks that were draining off 39 percent of HPUD's treated water. He hired engineers and consultants to upgrade the wastewater system and put a halt to violations at the treatment plant.

Engineer Nick Jackson said no violations have been reported for 25 consecutive months, and HPUD will receive the Water Environment Association operational excellence award this week at the WEA conference in Knoxville. The award covers a 2-state region of Kentucky and Tennessee.

Hammond is credited with development of a long range strategic plan which includes expanding HPUD's service area.

In 1999, HPUD served 21,780 customers with physical plant assets of \$66 million.

Today, the district serves 28,200 customers with physical plant assets of \$144 million.

Sometimes we just get lucky.

Halls and Powell residents were blessed with the leadership of Allan Gill—a man with military bearing who brooked no nonsense and built a water system through grit and willpower.

Likewise, we were blessed with the leadership of Marvin Hammond—a man with vision for the future and the courage to raise the rates to pay for progress.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

#### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 29, 2008*

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the important research it is doing. The federal government's investment in NIH research regularly pays tremendous dividends to the American taxpayer. Federal funding supports NIH—to conduct biomedical research at its Maryland campus as well as research conducted at hundreds of medical centers, independent research laboratories, and colleges and universities across the country. Today, I would like to highlight research being done at NIH to alleviate the economic and personal suffering caused by Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's disease, one of the most frightening memory-robbing disorders, interferes with the lives of 2.5 to 5 million older Americans, including over 200,000 people under the age of 65. Individuals with Alzheimer's disease may have trouble recalling addresses, major events, and the names of their own family members. Making meals and managing finances can become difficult. Over time, problems with memory and thinking get even worse. Alzheimer's disease costs the United States almost \$150 billion in medical care and lost productivity each year. With an aging population, this number will continue to grow larger and larger. By the year 2030, Alzheimer's disease is predicted to affect 7.7 million people in the United States over the age of 65. By 2015, Medicare costs for beneficiaries with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias are expected to more than double from \$91 billion in 2005 to \$189 billion.

Fortunately, research funded by the NIH has helped generate new treatments that can aid memory loss. Studies determined that a brain afflicted with Alzheimer's disease contains decreased levels of acetylcholine, a chemical that aids in memory and thought. Based on this finding, researchers developed several medications now available, termed cholinesterase inhibitors, which attempt to maintain normal levels of acetylcholine and can aid memory, thinking, and functional abilities in some people with Alzheimer's disease. While the effects of these drugs tend to be fairly short-lived and they do not stop the progression of the disease, they can be very helpful to some patients with Alzheimer's disease.

Moreover, great progress has been made in understanding the brain abnormalities that underlie Alzheimer's disease, thanks to research involving genetics, biochemistry, and cell biology. Researchers are on the threshold of developing new treatments that target these flaws in an effort to preserve brain circuits and help maintain memory function in patients with Alzheimer's disease. New drugs are being developed that target different biological pathways, which, following years of basic science research, have also been implicated in memory. With continued study, scientists believe a variety of improved treatments will be able to aid more people with memory impairments for longer periods of time and perhaps prevent the onset of Alzheimer's disease or slow its progression.

We have so much more to learn about the brain, and NIH-funded researchers nationwide, including in my own state of Idaho, are working to understand how it functions and to identify potential new therapies and treatments. That national research commitment gives the millions of people suffering from Alzheimer's disease, and the millions more who care for them, hope that treatments for this devastating disease are on the horizon.

#### TRIBUTE TO ALISON CHAMBERS AND ELLIE SAVERY

#### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 29, 2008*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of two young citizens, Alison Chambers and Ellie Savery, in rescuing two boys in West Lake Okoboji in Iowa.

On Tuesday, July 15, at 1:30 p.m., Alison and Ellie noticed two swimmers calling for help in the choppy waters of West Lake Okoboji. The young women, trained lifeguards and swimmers on the Fort Dodge, Iowa High School team, reacted immediately and swam 25 yards out to the stranded swimmers. Moments later, the young women returned the two boys safely back to the dock. Many of the bystanders praised Ellie and Alison for their heroic rescue after they got out of the water.

The diligent effort of these young women is a testament to the bravery and compassion of Iowans; willing to do whatever is necessary for a neighbor in need. I commend them for their heroism and cooperation. I am honored to represent both of them in the United States Congress, and wish each of them health and happiness in the future.

#### RECOGNIZING LONNIE AND LIBBY WILLIAMS UPON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 29, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Lonnie and Libby Williams Upon their 50th wedding anniversary.

Libby Barnes and Lonnie Williams began their courtship in 1956 in Milton, Florida. The two were introduced by Ms. Williams's cousin and immediately started dating. The couple recalls with fondness the "Toot N Tell It" drive-in restaurant they often frequented and remembers the days when their friends would congregate at the restaurant and "just talk."

At the time, Milton was still a small town—not the burgeoning city it is today—and, as the couple reminisces, "there wasn't a lot to do." Unperturbed by these geographic restrictions, the couple took advantage of the religious opportunities in the area and often attended the Pace Assembly of God Church together. After dating for 2 years, the couple was married on August 22, 1958.

The Williamses have been blessed with a wonderful, large family. With four children and

eight grandchildren, Lonnie and Libby Williams are constantly active and reminded of their good fortune. The couple cites their faith as the center point of their relationship and advises that the secret to marital bliss is to "never go to bed angry."

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Williams on their 50th wedding anniversary. They are truly an outstanding family and an asset to the First District of Florida.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 29, 2008*

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: Congressman JOHN M. McHUGH.

Bill Number: H.R. 6599.

Account: Military Construction, Army.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Congressman JOHN M. McHUGH.

Address of Requesting Entity: 2366 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515.

Provide an earmark of \$6.9 million for Project Number 57711 to construct a fire station at Fort Drum, New York. The entity to receive funding for this project is Fort Drum, located in Watertown, New York 13601. The funding will be used for military construction to help meet installation health and safety requirements.

#### CELEBRATING CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 29, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Caribbean-American Heritage Month and the wonderful implications it has for how far this country has come. To have a month in which we solely celebrate the contributions of those who have been oppressed and were deemed unequal by the very country they helped to build is recognition by the Congress of the United States that this great country is better and brighter because of their presence. Caribbean-American Heritage Month has given us the opportunity as a nation to recognize the everyday heroes in the Caribbean community that bring their hope, joy, and immeasurable talents to America.

When celebrating Caribbean-American Heritage Month in June we have the opportunity to more clearly illuminate the great economic disparities that are a reality in the Caribbean. The inception of this special month-long celebration has created an exclusive platform to zero in on Caribbean-specific issues like economic development, health, and education.

Caribbean-American Heritage Month recognizes and celebrates the many wonderful people of Caribbean heritage who have gone unrecognized for their immense contributions to this wonderful country. For that, I salute Caribbean-American Heritage Month.

#### TRIBUTE TO ALLAN ATKINSON

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 29, 2008*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Chief Administrative Officer of Winneshiek Medical Center, Allan Atkinson, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to the medical center and Northeast Iowa.

For 25 years, Allan has worked in healthcare administration, spending the last ten years at Winneshiek Medical Center in Decorah, Iowa. His long-term vision and teamwork approach has helped WMC grow and improve tremendously by offering an expanded range of services, experiencing a five-fold patient increase, and undertaking a \$17 million expansion and renovation project.

With his many years of experience in healthcare administration, Allan brought valuable knowledge and ideas to the table and credits the hospital's Board of Trustees for being such a great team. Their group effort has generated more quality healthcare options to Northeast Iowa, and I offer Allan and the Board my utmost congratulations and thanks.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending Allan Atkinson for his service to WMC and Northeast Iowa. I consider it an honor to represent Allan in Congress, and I wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement.

#### BIRDSEYE QUASQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

### HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 29, 2008*

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, this year marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of the town of Birdseye, in Dubois County, Indiana. This rural community of approximately 500 citizens represents the epitome of Hoosier values and, like many small communities across the United States, forms the bedrock of our Nation.

The city's ceremonial observance of this anniversary will be held beginning Thursday, August 21, continuing through August 24. A number of celebratory events have been planned, including musical performances, a farm machinery show, a queen contest, parade and children's activities. I look forward to celebrating Birdseye's Quasquicentennial with its residents and supporting some of these events during the celebration.

The foundations of Birdseye began much like other frontier communities as a trading crossroads in the early 1800s. For many years, this crossroads did not have a formal name, but by 1846 migration west had produced enough settlers in this rugged wilderness area to necessitate a Post Office. Benjamin Goodman, a popular minister and postmaster in nearby Worth (later renamed Schnellville), was asked to help select the site for the new office. Upon finding a site he liked, he commented, "It suit Bird's eye to a T-Y-tee." The phrase so struck the other frontiersmen that they named the Post Office and community "Birdseye."

It wasn't until 1880, however, that the community took on a more formal appearance as a town. Seven property owners—Enoch and Martha Inman, Elbert and Mary Baxter, John and Sarah Pollard, and Scott Austin—gathered together and laid out a plat, each donating a portion of their land to divide into streets and lots.

This platting proved to be well timed. The expansion of the Louisville, New Albany, and St. Louis Airline Railroad through the community in 1882 created an economic boom, growing the small community's population. By 1883, the community incorporated and held its first town board meeting on December 26, with William Koerner serving as board President.

The early settlers of Birdseye were a hardy bunch. The main source of power was the horse or mule and fields had to be cleared of timber, rocks and other natural debris. The soil, although fertile, was often "corned to death" by early farming practices, forcing settlers to use early fertilizers or let the field lay fallow. Citizens relied on each other to help harvest crops, build homes and storage buildings or care for one another in an emergency. Despite changes through the ages, this community spirit persists today and is the foundation of daily life in Birdseye.

The town's history, written and edited by L.L. Tussey for the Quasquicentennial and sponsored by the Birdseye Volunteer Fire Department and the Birdseye Park Board, recalls many of the town's more popular family and community stories. The book contains stories of small, one-room schools from the area and notes the common occurrence of baptisms in the nearby Anderson River. It recalls the annual Birdseye Reunion, when young boys would dress in their finest "church clothing" to present themselves to young ladies. They would often purchase tickets for their sweetheart to ride the steam swing—a version of our modern merry-go-round—at the event. An essay included in the book by Sereina Comstock remembers Birdseye's thriving sorghum industry. Known worldwide for its "smooth texture" and sweet taste, it was the town's fundamental cash crop at the turn of the 20th century. Farmers processed the sorghum into syrup, graded it according to color, and then sold the product both locally and abroad using the railroad as a distribution network.

Then there are stories like the one about Carl Neukam, written by his grandson Josh Neukam. A tribute to his grandfather, Josh wrote about Carl's service with the 151st Airborne Unit during the Korean War, his strong work ethic with companies such as Jasper Novelty, J.H. Hines, Jasper Desk, and Kimball International, and his love and dedication for his wife Helen Whaley. It tells his unique life stories, such as the time he worked for the State Highway Department and battled for 72 hours straight against a winter storm or his recollection of returning from Korea only to have his plane catch fire. Carl's life may never be highlighted in any history books or be made into a movie, but it is nonetheless a quintessential example of a true American story and of a regular American hero.

Birdseye has grown over the years and seen many changes and improvements to the town. The creation of a Volunteer Fire Department in 1968, the establishment of a municipal park in 1983, and the opening of a new town hall this year are representative of the town's growth and development.